

# OPTU NEWS

## Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited Chapter 531 [www.optu.org](http://www.optu.org) Editor: John E. Murphy 520-250-4083

Volume 22, Issue 5



### Index

#### Items that Change

- President's Message - **Focusing on wild native trout; AZTU**
- Upcoming Fishing Trips and Outings Reports **AK and SJ**
- Women's Activities -
- Conservation Report -
- Youth Activity Report -
- Project Healing Waters Report -
- Tips and Tricks -
- Fishing Reports -
- Quotes & Jokes
- For Sale / For Rent - **Some new items**
- OPTU Board Meeting Minutes - **What you need to know**
- Dry Creek Outfitters News - **Visit Eric and buy stuff**
- Photos: **Grip and grins from days gone by (throwbacks)**

#### Items that Don't Change Much

- Movie Links
- Help on Places to Fish
- OPTU Facebook Page

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

##### Officers and Coordinators

**President:** Steve Reiter (h) 520-795-2388  
[sreiter4@cox.net](mailto:sreiter4@cox.net)

**Vice President:** Open

**Secretary:** Kathleen Vitelli

**Treasurer:** Cathy Hill  
[Cathy@skbuilders.net](mailto:Cathy@skbuilders.net)

**Membership Chair:** Open

**Conservation Chair:** Robin Marsett  
[rmarsett@comcast.net](mailto:rmarsett@comcast.net)

**Healing Waters Chair:** Captain Chris Allen and Major Mario Bracamonte

**Fishing Trip Chair:** Joe Vitelli  
520-885-8357

**Public Relations Chair:** Michael Fletcher  
520-744-1631  
[mmltfletch@msn.com](mailto:mmltfletch@msn.com)

**Trout in the Classroom Chair:** Joe Fagan  
[jfaganfished@gmail.com](mailto:jfaganfished@gmail.com)

**Youth Education Chair:** Joe Fagan

##### Other Board Members

Jeff Collins (emeritus)

Roger McKee (ex officio)

**Newsletter Editor:** John Murphy  
520-299-3278; email:

[murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu](mailto:murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu)

##### Address:

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

P O Box 14822

Tucson, AZ 85732-4822

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Fellow OPTU'ers ....

Before anything else, just a quick reminder that there will be no regular monthly meetings in June, July, or August.

Have you ever gone fishing specifically for native or wild trout? Fishing for these usually-difficult to find and catch fish is considered to be the fourth stage in the maturation of an angler, after first catching a fish, then catching lots of fish, then catching big fish.

In many cases, catching and releasing wild and native trout and salmon would not be possible without the efforts of agencies like the US Fish and Wildlife Service, state game and fish departments, and concerned volunteer groups like Trout Unlimited. While TU's Mission Statement is "coldwater conservation," the Vision Statement says, "...TU will ensure that robust populations of native and wild fish once again thrive within their North American range...".

In 1998, TU published "TU's North American Salmonid Policy (NASP)" which outlines a science-based approach to coldwater conservation, essentially how TU intends to accomplish their Mission and realize their Vision. A copy is not included here as it stretches to more than 60 pages. If you would like to have a copy, please notify me by e-mail. Beginning in the fall of 2013, the State Council of TU (AZTU) began writing, "The Arizona Council of Trout Unlimited Native and Wild Non-Native Salmonid Management Position". The final revision was adopted at the AZTU meeting in April; a copy is included in this Newsletter.

Both the NASP and AZTU's position paper emphasize that the top priority is protection and restoration of native trout populations, followed by protection of wild, non-native trout populations. In Arizona, non-native salmonids are rainbow, brown, brook, cutthroat trout, and grayling. This may not always be the popular choice of anglers who, in some cases, have lost or may lose some part of a resident wild, non-native trout population in favor of returning a native fish to its historical home waters. Such is the case right now with Haigler Creek in the Rim Country, where AZGFD and the USFWS propose to install a barrier on private property in the upper section of Haigler, chemically treat above the barrier to remove existing fish, and eventually restock the water with Gila Trout, a threatened species. Haigler Creek below the barrier would still contain wild, non-native browns. The AZTU Council supports this plan.

I hope that, someday, the anglers who do not now see the big picture and are only concerned with catching lots of fish or only big fish, have an opportunity to once again fish upper Haigler Creek and perhaps attain that fourth stage of maturation in the fishing experience by stalking and landing a wild, native Gila trout, and then go a little downstream and catch big brown trout in the same stream and in the same day. It doesn't get any better than that....



I hope you have an enjoyable summer, and are able to get out of the heat somewhere. In any case I hope to see you after the summer break at our next regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 3, at the Viscount Hotel.

The speaker for the May 7 meeting is Vince Deadmond, a member of the Desert Fly Casters in Phoenix. Vince Deadmond, "The Fly Fishing Hardware Guy", is an enthusiastic, caffeinated, fly fisher in search of a really good cookie. He has fly fishing stories published on the web, in local newspapers and magazines. His presentation topic for OPTU will be "The Lower Salt River". The Lower Salt is in his back yard, and only 2 hours from Tucson.

Fishing the Lower Salt River will expose the angler to almost every kind of fish found in Arizona: Bass, Trout, Chub, Blue Gill, Crappie, Catfish, Carp, and Sucker. The presentation will feature some of the beautiful scenery on the Lower Salt as well as some of the wild life. We will talk about techniques and gear you will need for a successful trip, and some of the other reasons to plan a trip to this area.

I hope to see you there....

Steve Reiter

### **The Arizona Council of Trout Unlimited**

#### **Native and Wild Non-Native Salmonid Management Position – Adopted 4/3/2014**

Arizona is fortunate to have historic populations of both several native trout species (Apache, Gila) and many well established populations of several wild (naturally reproducing) non-native salmonids (Rainbow, Brown, Brook, and Grayling).

The conservation of all Arizona's native trout and wild non-native salmonids is a priority of the Arizona Council of Trout Unlimited (AZTU) and the Arizona Trout Unlimited Chapters (AZTUCs); We believe that both native and wild non-native fishes of all salmonid species are important components of the state's aquatic communities. Both native and wild non-native salmonids have important cultural, recreational, scientific, economic and legacy values.

AZTU and the AZTUCs endeavor to ensure Arizona's native trout and wild non-native salmonids persist over time in both numbers and geographic scope so that they can be enjoyed by future generations for sporting, scientific, cultural, and economic purposes.

AZTU and AZTUCs follow Trout Unlimited's (TU) National Conservation Agenda and believe that fisheries management policies for Arizona should be applied on a stream by stream basis, always following good scientific processes.

AZTU and the AZTUCs consider various factors in developing rigorous positions on potentially conflicting native and wild non-native fish management issues in Arizona, and we therefore believe these positions support Trout Unlimited's Mission and Vision:

**TU Mission:** To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

**TU Vision:** By the next generation, Trout Unlimited will ensure that robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

Factors to be considered in developing positions concerning the placement, control or eradication of wild non-native salmonids in areas where they may pose a threat to native species:

- Native salmonids are our top conservation priority: TU's North American Salmonid Policy (NASP, 1998) establishes conservation of native salmonids as the organization's top priority.
- Conservation of wild, non-native salmonids is also important and within our mission. Together, the NASP and TU's vision statement establish that conservation of both native and wild, non-native salmonids are important AZTU and AZTUCs objectives.
- The goal of AZTU and AZTUCs is to have many diverse self-sustaining coldwater fish populations, both native and non-native, that are healthy enough to support angling opportunity. If it is not possible to establish a self-sustaining native trout population in a water system, AZTU or an AZTUC may elect to support alternate means of providing fish for sport-fishing purposes after considering relevant ecological, economic and social factors.
- The NASP establishes the science-based principles and policies that guide the conservation work of AZTU and the AZTUCs.
- We oppose stocking (or supplementation) in waters where healthy, self-sustaining salmonid populations or stocks adequate for angling opportunities already exist and can be maintained with appropriate regulations. AZTU and the AZTUCs believe this policy should be extended to prohibit stocking of non-native trout species in fishless waters where native trout populations could reasonably be expected to exist with appropriate regulations.
- Socio-economic factors are to be considered in taking positions on management of wild, non-native fish and such factors include, but are not limited to: A) whether the removal of a wild, non-native population would eliminate fishing opportunities that could not be provided by restoration of native salmonids; and B) the level of local community support for removal.
- Management of wild, non-native salmonids must be determined on a case-by-case basis. While it is our top priority to protect native salmonid species, every watershed and its socio-economic context are unique. Attempting to control or eradicate non-native salmonids for the purposes of native fish conservation may not be practical or ecologically-advisable in all situations. Where ecological, cultural or economic considerations do not support eradicating non-native salmonids in a watershed where native trout conservation is a goal, AZTU and the AZTUCs will work with state and federal agencies in seeking the best way to advance native salmonid conservation while maintaining non-native salmonid populations.



## **WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES**

### Women's Initiative (WI)

OPTU is looking for someone to take the lead for this work. Responsibilities include taking part in the monthly teleconference, attending a monthly board meeting and working with the board to encourage more women to participate in Trout Unlimited. The only requirements are that you participate in the phone meetings and let the board know the WI status. Please contact Roseann at 760.1659 or rzann@comcast.net for information on the next teleconference.

## **TU.ORG WEBSITE UPGRADE FOR OPTU**

The OPTU Chapter is currently working with TU National to add our information to the TU.org web site. The new TU site provides for user stream reports, Chapter event notifications, individual and group blogs and many others. Stop by the tu.org site, add your profile and start exploring, post your fish porn, trip information and anything fishing related to the Old Pueblo -- 531 group site. Roseann Marsett (rzann@comcast.net) and Kathleen Vitelli (kayceesgarden@att.com) welcome your participation. If you have any questions, problems or help with postings please let us know. We hope to have the transition completed by the end of the summer but we are up for your participation in the meantime.

Thanks,  
Roseann Marsett



### **Calendar**

**MAY 7:** Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speaker Vince Deadmond (see president's report for details).

**MAY 7: BOARD MEETING:** 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Viscount Suites.

**MAY 28:** Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, 5655 East River Road, Suite 131. Call Eric at 326-7847.

**No meetings for June and July**

**JUN 26:** Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, 5655 East River Road, Suite 131. Call Eric at 326-7847.

## Youth Activities

### Conservation

The annual Native Trout conference was held in Phoenix on April 24th. A lot of good information was exchanged concerning plans for Native Trout in Arizona and New Mexico but also the management of wild trout waters and put and take fisheries.

OPTU is actively engaged in prospecting for candidate streams in Southeast Arizona for the introduction of Native Trout, such as Gila and Yaqui. We have identified two streams in the Chiricahua Mountains which warrant further study and will be placing temp loggers in them this summer. We have some others that have been eliminated and have a few more to check out. If anyone has any ideas of possible streams that might be viable habitat for trout please contact me. The Arizona Department of Game and Fish has already located possible waters on Mount Graham but we still need to look at other options in the Chiricahuas, Huachucas, Catalinas and Santa Ritas. If you have any suggestions please let me know.

*Robin Marsett*



Cave Creek Dam

## PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING



The program is led by Captain Chris Allen of Sierra Vista and Major Mario Bracamonte of Tucson. Please give them your support as they continue the good work.

Project Healing Waters is continuing to grow in Both Sierra Vista and Tucson. Mario Bracamonte and Chris Allen are doing a great job of recruiting new participants. Our trip to Lee's Ferry with OPTU was a great success and we look forward to more. I want to thank Whitey Kuebler, Danny and Sharon Hooper, Joe Vitelli, Pat Richards, Scott Brock, Gary Locker and Jim Owen for their continued support of our weekly sessions and booth bunny time at the Davis Monthan Air Show. *Robin Marsett*

## Upcoming Fishing Trips and Outings Reports

### 13th Annual San Juan Trip

Dates will be Sunday April 13 to Friday April 18, 2015. If you are interested the cost should be about \$450 for all food, travel, and fun. Contact the editor at [jemurphy51@me.com](mailto:jemurphy51@me.com). Money won't be due till about December.

### Alaska

The Murphy crew will be going to Alaska twice this year to the Great Alaska Adventure Lodge in Sterling, Alaska. The first trip is June for Sockeye, Rainbows, Dollies, King salmon and Halibut. Dates June 14 to 20. The second will be in September from the 6th to 12th - this trip will focus on big Rainbows, Dollies, Steelhead, and Silver Salmon. If you would like to join colleagues from Tucson on this trip call John at 520-250-4083 for details.



## OPTU BOARD MEETING MINUTES - APRIL 2, 2014

### ATTENDEES

Steve Reiter, President

Joe Fagan, Youth Chair

Robin Marsett, Conservation/PHWFF

Roseann Marsett

Mick Fletcher, AZ Council Liaison

Joe Vitelli, Outings Coordinator

Kathleen Vitelli, Secretary

Mario Bracamonte, PHWFF

Meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. at Viscount Suites Hotel.

### Banquet Overview

A discussion took place regarding the semi-final numbers for the banquet including costs vs. net profit. At this time, it appears that this years banquet has netted a total profit of \$7,241.00. This number is not the final tally as several credit card and checks have yet to be reflected in the statement. Steve will be following up with Cathy and the bank for a more up-to-date count.

### Budget

It was agreed that the OPTU budget would run from September to September. The budget will be discussed at the April board meeting with proposals for upcoming expenditures discussed.

### OPTU Website update

Roseann will be the webmaster and the site will be recreated in conjunction with TU National. This undertaking requires a webmaster and a site editor.

Kathleen V. volunteered for the site editor job. Roseann will be coordinating with TU's IT person, Doug Agee.

### YOUTH/TIC

Joe Fagan reported that there are trout surviving from the Trout in the Classroom at Flowing Wells H.S. and the middle school. These fish will soon be disposed of as it is not legal to release them in AZ waters. He indicated that the volunteers this past year unfortunately were minimally involved.

Joe discussed his desire to see our involvement with the Boy Scouts of Tucson and their upcoming gathering in June which he hopes will assist them with fly tying, casting and catching fish to achieve their merit badge. Anyone who wishes to volunteer will need to first be certified.

### PHWFF

Robin and Mario indicated that they will have a booth at the upcoming DM air show the weekend of 4/12.

The next fishing event for PHWFF will be Tangle Lakes, Alaska from 7/14 to 7/19. Mario indicated that they will be preparing a yearly event calendar of all their fishing trips.



## OUTINGS

Joe reported that the Lee's Ferry trip at the end of March was a success. He will be running this trip next year. He will also be coordinating with PHWFF on their yearly calendar.

## CONSERVATION

Robin reported that Amber Lee is no longer assigned to Tucson AZGFD and has moved on to Phoenix. Robin spoke to Don Mitchell of AZGFD with respect to what trout will be available in this area out of concern for the limit on rainbow and browns. Don indicated this would not affect Rose Canyon.

Mike from AZGFD (native fish coor) told Robin they are looking for more habitat for Gila trout, possibly Cave Creek. If it is found to be viable, he will try to get temp logs for us to install and monitor. Other possibilities are Lemon and Sabino Creeks.

Robin indicated that he would be applying for an "embrace a stream" grant to improve access to Grant Creek. Scott Koltavy did an estimate on installing a new walkway and ladder which would cost approximately \$3600.00.

## NEW BUSINESS

Joe V. indicated that he had gotten a quote from Awards to Go for a new OPTU banner, total cost of approximately 135.00. A motion was made by Roseann to approve this expenditure and was seconded by Robin.

Steve reported that AZGFD's approach to native trout was to approach every stream as native fish is they cannot introduce native fish into them. It would be considered non-native wild.

The meeting was concluded at 6:50 p.m..



---

## Tips and Tricks

Fun facts about WD-40 <http://wd40.com/about-us/myths-legends-fun-facts/>  
Google fly fishing tips and techniques for hundreds of links.

## DRY CREEK OUTFITTERS: NEWS AND BARGAINS

Call us if you need something. If you're unable to make it to the shop before your next trip, we are happy to drop a few bugs and/or leaders (or whatever) in the mail - shipping is free.

Dry Creek resides at the River Center mall; NE corner of River and Craycroft and is open **Tuesdays through Saturdays** from 10 am to 7 pm Tuesday to Friday and 9:30 am to 6 pm on Saturday. Address: 5655 East River Road, Suite 131, Tucson, AZ 85750 and phone (520) 326-7847. East side of the River Center between a beauty shop and Japanese restaurant. Eric is a long-time supporter of OPTU and we all need to be sure to support him. So get over to DCO and buy some of those essential things you know you need. *The Editor*

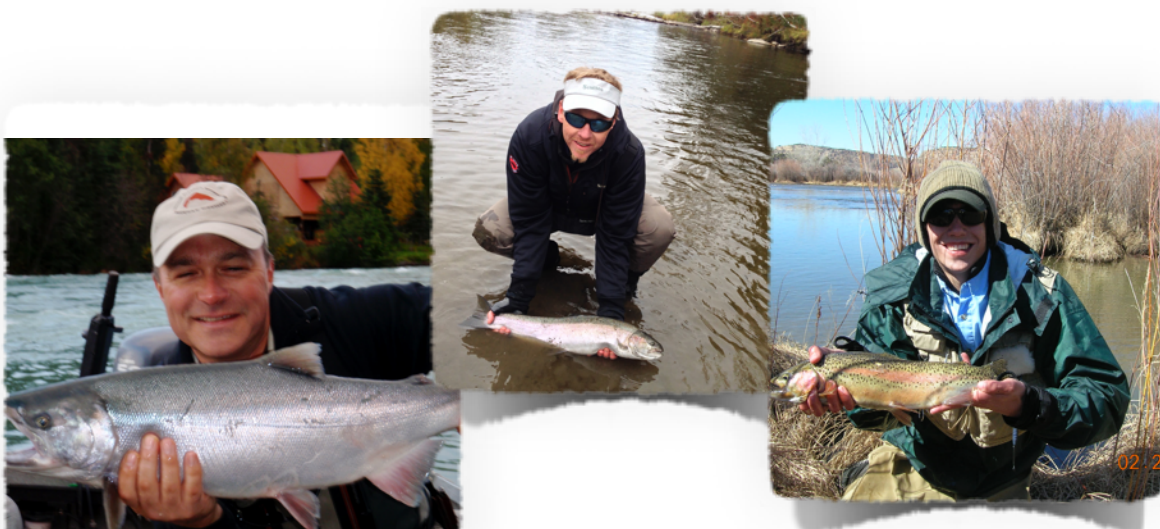
### FOR SALE

**Fly Fishing Magazines** I have 30 plus yrs. of fly fishing magazines- all kinds. I want to sell them for \$.50 a copy. My # is 747-7074. Vinnie Mchale.

**Simms Medium Long Waders** (foot size about a 9-1/2). A little older but in very good condition. Worn float tubing last summer in western Colorado with zero problems. \$50. Contact John Arnett 520 721 4339 (h) or 520 248 3828 (c)

### FOR RENT

4 BR house in Heber City, UT. 15 miles from Park City and a mile from the Provo River; 2.5 hrs to the Green. \$600 per week or \$100/night - plus housecleaning fee. Extra beyond 4 guests. Call John at 520-250-4083 if interested in checking it out.



## Arizona Game and Fish Interactive Stocking Schedule

[http://www.azgfd.gov/pdfs/h\\_f/fishing/stocking/2012SumTroutStockSchedule.pdf](http://www.azgfd.gov/pdfs/h_f/fishing/stocking/2012SumTroutStockSchedule.pdf)

### QUOTES AND JOKES

Nothing funny this month.

### FISHING REPORTS

None submitted.



## Newsletter Items That Don't Often Change

---

### MOVIE LINKS

**Please** send links to movies you have seen on YouTube or other places. I'll check it out and post. Here are a few:

Top Ten Viral Flyfishing Videos (courtesy of Ernie Gradillas) [http://www.flyfishinsalt.com/news/top-10-fly-fishing-videos?](http://www.flyfishinsalt.com/news/top-10-fly-fishing-videos?cmsgid=enews040213&spPodID=030&spMailingID=17130073&spUserID=MzU4MjY4ODA3NTQSI&spJobID=213641885&spReportId=MjEzNjQxODg1So)

[cmsgid=enews040213&spPodID=030&spMailingID=17130073&spUserID=MzU4MjY4ODA3NTQSI&spJobID=213641885&spReportId=MjEzNjQxODg1So](http://www.flyfishinsalt.com/news/top-10-fly-fishing-videos?cmsgid=enews040213&spPodID=030&spMailingID=17130073&spUserID=MzU4MjY4ODA3NTQSI&spJobID=213641885&spReportId=MjEzNjQxODg1So)

Catching a nice Gila trout

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXEZVJmD3Yo>

This is a classic TU film called The Way of a Trout.

<http://www.lrc.tu.org/movies/TheWayofaTrout/>

Trout in the Classroom Video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWlnuFkCPFg>

Check out this video of Chris Woods of TU talking about our efforts in the Southwest.

<http://youtu.be/CwFry99OhqE>

This URL refers to the 1<sup>st</sup> book written on fly-fishing by a Benedictine nun and published in 1496. It shows a block print with the first Tenkara-style fly-fishing - recorded in Europe (not Japan). No fly reels back then.

<http://www.headwatersofhistory.com/2012/01/interviews-with-anglers-past-dame-juliana.html>

Check out this video of Chris Woods of TU talking about our efforts in the Southwest.

<http://youtu.be/CwFry99OhqE>

Controversy about what open containment fish farms are doing to native fish and what they might be doing to you when you buy farmed salmon at Costco. It is long but instructive. *Ernie Gradillas*

<http://vimeo.com/61301410>

### HELP ON PLACES TO FISH

Names and email addresses of OPTU members who have kindly agreed to share their fishing waters' knowledge with members who have not fished the particular waters before and are looking for advice is now available for downloading on the new OPTU website at:

<http://optu.org/FISHING%20WATERS%20HELP.doc>. A good first lead about where and when to fish, or where to stay can make the trip easier and more enjoyable. The list is alphabetical by state and several foreign locations are also included. For advice about one of the areas or rivers on the list, get in touch with the named colleague by email and make arrangements to talk to them by phone.

Additionally, courtesy of OPTU flyfisher Don Maggert, there is a disc containing articles pulled from the Web about fly fishing some thirty well-regarded Western rivers (mostly in Colorado and Montana as well as a few from Idaho and Utah). Send me a name of the river and I will check to see if it is on Don's disc and if so, I will forward the write-up. *Stan Vanagunas* [vanagunas@msn.com](mailto:vanagunas@msn.com)

### OPTU FACEBOOK GROUP

If you add the OPTU group to your links in Facebook it will help make contacts with members. *Joe DeVries* [jrdaz@cox.net](mailto:jrdaz@cox.net)

### EDDIES NEWSLETTER

In case you would like to receive "Eddies: Reflections on Fisheries Conservation," click on the link and sign up for paper or email delivery. <http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/eddiessubscribe/subs.cfm>

---